

# Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks'

## Centennial Events



# **MONTHLY EVENTS**

## **JANUARY**

### **January 18, 2016**

#### **Martin Luther King Day of Service**

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

This event commemorated Dr. King's legacy with a day of service and education.

### **January - Summer 2016 (end date to be determined)**

#### **Exhibit—Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks: Celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service**

*Mountain Light Gallery, Bishop, CA*

This exhibit, which continues through Summer 2016, captures the beauty of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks through the lenses of six photographers.

Superintendent Woody Smeck and a Sequoia Parks Conservancy representative will attend the Artists' Reception on March 12.

## **FEBRUARY**

### **February (during month)**

#### **African American History Month**

*Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sequoia-and-Kings-Canyon-National-Parks/145808212106571>

*Twitter:* @SequoiaKingsNPS

This social media campaign (on Tuesdays and Thursdays in February) highlighted the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and African American history in the National Park Service.

### **February 14-27, 2016**

#### **Facebook Photo Contest**

*Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sequoia-and-Kings-Canyon-National-Parks/145808212106571>

Love Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks? The public is invited to show their love of the parks by entering our Facebook Photo Contest. For more info, visit <http://go.usa.gov/cVDRx>.

**February 25, 2016** (from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.)

**African American History Month**

*Southern California Edison, Energy Education Center, Tulare, CA*

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks staffed a table at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Black History Month event by Southern California Edison.

## MARCH

**March 5, 2016** (from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

**BioBlitz - Newts**

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

This was the first of three BioBlitzes at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 2016. The Newt Blitz was an opportunity for the public to team up with scientists to find and identify newts at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

**March 12, 2016** (from 10 a.m.-12 noon)

**Women of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks**

*Three Rivers Presbyterian Church, Three Rivers, CA*

Twenty-eight young women, ages 15-24, learned about careers in the National Park Service and other federal agencies at this event. Participants were from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Visalia, Tulare, Exeter, and Ivanhoe, as well as the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission and several local conservation corps. A first-person living history character from Sequoia Parks Conservancy made an appearance.

## APRIL

**April 16-24, 2016** (various activities/times each day)

**National Park Week** (includes Junior Ranger Day on April 23, 2016)

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

Find Your Park at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks during National Park Week! Explore the park through ranger-led programs (most days), as well as Junior Ranger Day (April 23 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.). At Junior Ranger Day, kids and families are invited to visit exploration stations to learn how we can all work together to protect the parks. At the end, kids will earn a Jr. Ranger patch!

# MAY

**May 20-21, 2016** (various times)

**Centennial BioBlitz** – Terrestrial/aquatic invertebrates, plants, bats, owls, etc.

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

Team up with scientists to find and identify terrestrial invertebrates, aquatic invertebrates, plants, bats, owls, etc., at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The parks will host 200 students from several schools (pre-arranged groups only) on Friday, May 20.

A public BioBlitz event will be held on Saturday, May 21, from 9 a.m.-10 p.m. The Centennial BioBlitz, the second of its kind at these parks, will be part of a national BioBlitz effort of 100+ other national parks. Info:

[www.exploresequoiakingscanyon.com/bioblitz-series.html](http://www.exploresequoiakingscanyon.com/bioblitz-series.html)

**May 27-29, 2016**

*Tentative times:*

9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday

11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Saturday

9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday

**Mule Days**

*Bishop, CA – Tri-county Fairgrounds –next to Smokey Bear's Cabin*

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and the Sequoia Parks Conservancy are planning to staff a booth at Mule Days—to highlight these parks and the Centennial. Other national parks may co-staff the booth, too. In addition, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks will send at least one team to compete for the World Championships at Mule Days in a variety of disciplines. Representatives from these parks will participate with other national parks in the Mule Days Parade.

# JUNE

**June 4, 2016**

**National Trails Day** (from 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.)

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

The public is invited to learn about trails at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. In addition, 20 students and park staff will reroute and restore a 100-foot section of the Hazelwood Nature Trail in Giant Forest. *(Trail work for pre-arranged group only.)*

**June 18, 2016** (tentatively 10 a.m.-9 p.m.)

**The Legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers**

Come celebrate the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers with a re-enactment of the soldiers' encampment, ranger-led programs, exhibits, short movies, etc.

## **JULY**

**July 4, 2016** (from 11 a.m.-12 noon)

**Fourth of July Parade**

*Kings Canyon National Park*

This Fourth of July Parade is held in the community of Wilsonia in celebration of our nation's independence. All visitors are welcome to enjoy the festivities. Route info will follow soon.

**July 23, 2016** (6-10 p.m.)

**Explore Growlifornia: Celebrating the Centennial of the National Park Service**

(from 6-10 p.m.)

*Chukchansi Park, Fresno, CA*

Come learn about national parks at this interactive evening event. The National Park Service will participate in this event through an informal partnership with The Fresno Grizzlies. Activities will focus on outdoor recreation but will highlight historical/cultural parks, too. Information will be available about all national parks in California, especially Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, César E. Chávez National Monument, and Yosemite National Park, as well as the National Park Service as a whole. Either a park superintendent or a junior ranger will throw out the first pitch. In addition, the scorecard screens will highlight fun facts about national parks.

## **AUGUST**

**August 5-7, 2016** (day into evening)

**Dark Sky Festival**

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Lake Kaweah, and in Three Rivers, CA*

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy, in cooperation with the National Park Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will hold the annual Dark Sky Festival at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and in the local area. As part of this event, First Saturday activities in Three Rivers, CA, will feature the Centennial of the National Park Service and the Dark Sky Festival.

## **August 25, 2016**

### **Founders Day Celebration**

#### *Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

-- **Ranger-led Programs** (various times TBD) – The public is welcome to learn more about the parks at ranger-led programs during this day.

--**Special Cave Tours** (10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. plus Discovery Tour 5:15 p.m.-6:15 p.m.)  
Cave tours will be done by candlelight. Reserve your spot at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). These tours will be done in conjunction with other caves in the National Park Service on this same day in honor of the Centennial.

-- **The History of the National Park Service's Uniforms** – The Sequoia Parks Conservancy office in Three Rivers, CA, will host an open house highlighting the history of National Park Service uniforms. This will include a design contest by local students—"What will national park uniforms look like 100 years from now?"

--**Staff Appreciation Day** – For parks' staff, there will be a special event celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service.

## **Aug. 26, 2016** (from 2-3 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.)

### **ERSA of Red Trees (Pageant)**

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy plans to sponsor this pageant under the Big Trees in honor of the Centennial.

## **Aug. 27, 2016** (from 11 a.m.-12 noon, 2-3 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.)

### **ERSA of Red Trees (Pageant)**

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy plans to sponsor this pageant under the Big Trees in honor of the Centennial.

## **Aug. 28** (from 11-12 noon and 2-3 p.m.)

### **ERSA of Red Trees (Pageant)**

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy plans to sponsor this pageant under the Big Trees in honor of the Centennial.

## SEPTEMBER

**September 17, 2016** (from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.)

### **Find Adventure Food Truck Fest**

*Mooney Grove Park, Visalia, CA*

Bring the family and learn about Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and other national parks through interactive activities. Food trucks will provide a variety of dining options. This event is sponsored by the Sequoia Parks Conservancy, in cooperation with Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

## NOVEMBER

**November 7-8, 2016** (All day)

### **Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks' Science Symposium**

*Location to be determined*

This two-day Science Symposium will celebrate and share selected ongoing research, while building support for fulfilling Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks' Research Stewardship Strategy. The audience will be a mixture of professional scientists, college graduates, and undergraduate students.

## DECEMBER

**December 11, 2016** (from 2:30-3:30 p.m.)

### **Trek to the Nation's Christmas Tree**

*Kings Canyon National Park*

This annual event at the General Grant Tree, the Nation's Christmas Tree, includes speakers, music, a non-denominational Christmas message, and a tribute to those who fought and died for our freedom.

**December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016** (from 7 a.m.-5 p.m., with 6-7 a.m. optional owl count)

**Bird Blitz**

*Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

This is the third and final BioBlitz at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 2016. This event is part of the annual Christmas Bird Count coordinated by the Sequoia Parks Conservancy. The Sequoia Parks Conservancy will add additional components to the event this year, including involvement of children from Three Rivers Unified School District in Three Rivers, CA.

## **OTHER POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Staff from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is discussing additional partnership ideas with other groups at this time. This list will be updated on an occasional basis to include new information.